

REMARKS

Pursuant to entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 5-16, 18, 22 and 24-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 6-16 and 18 are allowed. The Examiner also notes that claims 23-25 and 27 include allowable subject matter, but are objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims. Claims 5, 22 and 26 stand rejected.

The Examiner notes that claim 5 would be allowed if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 §U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. Applicant has amended claim 5 to overcome this rejection so that claim 5 is now believed to be allowable.

Claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 23. Claim 26 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 27. Accordingly, claims 22 and 26 are now believed to be allowable. Claims 23 and 27 have been canceled.

In view of the above, all of the claims are now believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants do not acquiesce to the characterizations of the art. For brevity and to advance prosecution, however, Applicants have not addressed all characterizations of the art, but reserve the right to do so in further prosecution of this or a subsequent application.

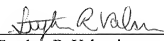
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No fees are believed to be due at this time. However, the USPTO is authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 02-2548. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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